

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 251267
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

1. THE HOUSE ACCEPTS FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATIONS
CONFERENCE REPORT

BY A VOTE OF 228-195 ON OCTOBER 18, THE HOUSE ACCEPTED THE
COMPROMISE CONFERENCE REPORT ON FY 78 FOREIGN AID APPROPRIATIONS. THE COMPROMISE ELIMINATES THE SIX HOUSE AMENDMENTS WHICH WOULD HAVE PROHIBITED "INDIRECT" AID TO SEVEN COUNTRIES AND ON THREE COMMODITIES (PALM OIL, SUGAR AND CITRUS) WHILE RETAINING THE PROHIBITION ON ALL MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO URUGUAY AND ETHIOPIA AND THE PROHIBITION ON FOREIGN MILITARY CREDITS TO ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, EL SALVADOR AND GUATEMALA. THE DEBATE WAS CONCLUDED BY AN IMPASSIONED
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PLEA BY MAJORITY LEADER JIM WRIGHT TO ACCEPT THE COMPROMISE
AS THE BEST ACHIEVABLE. THE BILL NOW GOES TO THE SENATE
WHERE FEW PROBLEMS ARE EXPECTED.

THE TOTAL APPROPRIATION WILL BE FOR \$6.775 BILLION, WHICH
IS \$524 MILLION BELOW THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST. THE
TOTAL CUT FROM THE ADMINISTRATION REQUEST THIS YEAR WAS

10.9 PERCENT (VS. 10.8 PERCENT FOR FY 77, 10.5 PERCENT FOR FY 76, AND 38.2 PERCENT FOR FY 75). THE BIGGEST CUT

WAS TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, DOWN 23 PERCENT TO \$1.926 BILLION FROM AN ADMINISTRATION REQUEST OF \$2.616 BILLION.

ON TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS, CONGRESSMAN YOUNG WON HIS MOTION TO REMOVE THE PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER PROVISIONS ON AID TO MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA BY A VOTE OF 219-188. YOUNG WAS DEFEATED IN HIS MOTION TO RECEDE TO THE HIGHER SENATE MILITARY ASSISTANCE FIGURE FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

2. INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

THE HOUSE TODAY PASSED BY VOICE VOTE AND SENT TO THE PRESIDENT THE \$300 MILLION INDOCHINESE REFUGEE AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND THE HEW PROGRAM ON A PHASED-DOWN BASIS OVER FOUR YEARS. VANCE

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